

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1012

April 27, 2021

The Honorable John P. Roth  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 22202

General Charles Q. Brown Jr.  
Chief of Staff of the Air Force  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 22202

Dear Acting Secretary Roth and General Brown:

I welcome last year's decision by the Department of the Air Force to name the Savannah Air National Guard Base, Georgia, as the one of the next locations ("Main Operating Base 6") to receive the new strategic C-130J aircraft.

I am concerned, however, by reports that the Department of the Air Force is considering diverting any of these C-130Js away from the brave men and women serving at the Georgia Air National Guard to a training mission or reconsidering last year's decision in any way.

The Georgia Air National Guard plays a critical role in our nation's defense. Since 1974, the Georgia Air Guard has provided tactical airlift in domestic and deployed, tactical, austere environments. They have flawlessly executed combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, provided support to overseas contingencies in Europe, conducted humanitarian mission support in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria, and supported homeland operations, including the 2021 presidential inauguration.

The reports that the Georgia Air National Guard may not receive the modern aircraft as previously announced is concerning, particularly given that this decision would be made without congressional oversight or transparency. I request that the Department of the Air Force proceed with the previously announced recapitalization plan and ensure that the Georgia Air National Guard is able to continue to conduct their important mission with the C-130J aircraft.

Thank you for your immediate consideration of this issue of importance to Georgia and our national security.

Sincerely,



Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator